



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**



March 13, 2013

MEDIA ADVISORY

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**DISTRICT FIRE AND EMS CHIEF KENNETH ELLERBE'S STATEMENT
IN RESPONSE TO A FOX 5 NEWS STORY ON INACCURATE FLEET DATA**

Following recent reports on the District's Fire and Emergency Medical Services reserve fleet status, I instructed the Deputy Chief of our Fleet Maintenance Division to conduct an audit of his submission of fleet readiness to ensure the accuracy of his report.

The result of the Deputy Chief's research revealed that he had, in fact, used an old fleet schedule that had not properly excluded apparatus that had been removed from our inventory. As a result of his oversight, inaccurate information was reported and included apparatus that were no longer in the department's fleet.

As a result of this oversight and inaccurate communication, coupled with an increase in his division's overtime expenditures, the Deputy Chief has informed me of his decision to retire, which I have accepted. He will remain with us long enough to transfer any pertinent historical knowledge. His replacement has already been selected and notified.

I personally called union president Ed Smith about this matter and I want to thank the firefighters' union for bringing this inaccurate information to our attention.

– Kenneth B. Ellerbe, Chief, District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services

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